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More renters spending more on rent

by CHAD INGRAM Times Staff

An updated housing and homelessness plan for the Haliburton County and the City of Kawartha Lakes shows that people who rent living accommodations are spending more and more of their income on those accommodations.

In November, county councillors heard a presentation on and accepted an updated housing and homelessness plan for the municipalities from Hope Lee, manager of huma n services for the City of Kawartha Lakes. The City of Kawartha Lakes is the social services manager for Haliburton County, overseeing programming and administering funding.

The plan, entitled Building Stronger Communities, lays out housing goals and strategies for housing for the years 2020 through 2029.

Housing is considered to be affordable if housing costs - rent or mortgage payments

see NEARLY page 3



Christmas in the village

Kinmount residents Jake Hebert, left, and his three-year-old son Theodore roast marshmallows over a fire set-up by members of the Kawartha Lakes Fire and Rescue, Kinmount division, steps from the Kinmount Railway Station and Museum during Christmas in the Village on Saturday, Dec. 7. See more on page 13. /DARREN LUM Staff

Coleman leaves for Bruce County

by CHAD INGRAM

Times Staff

Minden Hills community services director Mark Coleman is leaving the township, taking a job as the director of community services for the Municipality of Brockton, located in Bruce County.

He is scheduled to begin his new position on Jan. 6.

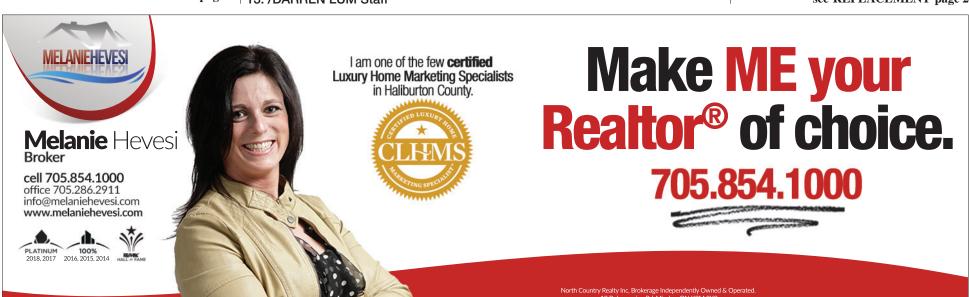
Coleman has been community services director with Minden Hills since 2014, and most recently has been overseeing the township's \$13-million arena project, in which he has been heavily involved. The new facility is in the midst of construction, with members of the public offered a sneak peek last week. Being built by Ottawa's McDonald Brothers Construction, it is scheduled to be completed before the 2020/21 ice season.

Before being hired by Minden Hills, Coleman was the director of parks, rec and trails for the Township of Algonquin Highlands.

In an email to the *Times*, Minden Hills CAO/treasurer Lorrie Blanchard confirmed council had accepted Coleman's resignation.

"We'd like to thank Mark for his years with the township, his hard work and dedication, and his commitment to the community,"

see REPLACEMENT page 2



Concerns around proposed changes to building code

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

The Ontario government is proposing changes to the province's building code, changes it says are aimed at streamlining customer service and providing consistency around the building process, but which are causing some concern with municipal building officials.

During a November Algonquin Highlands council meeting, chief building official Dave Rogers, who was taking part in a consultation process regarding the proposed changes, expressed some reservations about some of the province's proposed transformations, including the creation of a central administrative authority that would oversee building operations in the province.

"That's a thing I have a lot of trouble with," Rogers told councillors.

That authority would act as a not-for-profit entity overseen by a board of directors, but municipalities would be responsible for the collection of fees on behalf of the authority.

"The proposed fee structure would be based on a percentage of the cost of construction which poses the issue – how would the municipality obtain accurate construction costs?" a report from Rogers read. "Currently the township bases its permit fees per square foot, which avoids the confusion of obtaining accurate construction costs from the property owner. In the proposed scenario, the building department would be responsible for collecting fees at the time of permit issuance, and the monies would need to be noted so that the administrative staff

can place the funds into a separate account and subsequently forward to the authority."

Rogers told councillors he hoped the province would introduce some sort of minimum flat fee for small projects, otherwise, a great deal of municipal staff time could go into processing very small fees for the many small projects that take place within the municipality.

"We have a lot of small projects," he said. "If somebody comes in and asks for a building permit for a deck, and the deck's worth \$10,000, we're going to be collecting 25 cents. So, to that end, it will obviously have to be tracked, it'll affect our finance staff, because they'll actually have to code it, send it, save it and remit it back. So there'll be staff time involved in all of that as well."

The proposed authority would also be involved in enforcement against those who violate the building code, but Rogers's report indicated it was unclear how this assistance in enforcement would ultimately benefit municipalities.

"The administrative authority will be looking at ways to provide enhanced enforcement against person(s) and or companies in violation of the Ontario Building Code Act or Regulation," the report reads. "Presently, a municipality can issue an order to comply against an owner or other persons, when they are not compliant with the Code or Regulation. Should a person fail to comply with an order, the township is forced to take the individual to court and request compliance through the court and fines against the person, which can be costly. The changes propose to retain the services of the administrative authority to provide enforce-



This reads like increasing red tape and creating a much more muddled system.

— ALGONQUIN HIGHLANDS MAYOR CAROL MOFFATT



ment against individuals in order to obtain compliance. It is unclear how this would save time or money for the township."

There could be other implications for municipalities as well, such as a requirement for an increased number of exams to be written by municipal building staff, and the imposition of a province-wide code of conduct.

Municipalities already have their own codes of conduct.

"Currently municipalities are required to have a code of conduct for their building officials, while there is no code of conduct for individual ministry registered designers," Rogers's report read. "The provincial code of conduct would include all persons who are building code practitioners and include an escalating scale of discipline based on the nature of the infraction. Discipline can take

the form of warnings, fines and/or possible termination. The administrative authority would be the agency to monitor the code of conduct and complaints."

Mayor Carol Moffatt said it seemed like the process was an unnecessary and onerous one, and if there were problems with particular municipal building departments within the province, the province should deal directly with them.

"I'm confused with all of this . . . if there are challenges with building departments in certain municipalities, then those municipalities should be dealt with separately, rather than making everybody go through an entirely different and somewhat onerous process just to make sure everybody's doing the same thing," Moffatt said. "They should be doing the same thing anyway, and this, to me, is completely contrary to everything we've heard at conferences about, you know, the cutting of red tape. This reads like increasing red tape and creating a much more muddled system."

Rogers was submitting his concerns on behalf of the municipality in a feedback process that ended late last month.

A release from the province regarding the proposed changes says they are meant to strengthen public safety; streamline customer service and approval processes; deliver sector-driven services; provide timely and modern tools and products; promote consistency across the province; and enhance integrity in the system.

Replacement plan to be determined by council

from page 1

she wrote. "A plan for his replacement will be determined by council in the near future, although council would like to assure the community that the arena project will move forward with the continued support and hard work of the project committee."



Mark Coleman, seen here in a file photo, is leaving his post at Minden Hills to become the community services director at the Municipality of Brockton, which includes the town of Walkerton.

Minden Hills Deputy Mayor Lisa Schell said she was saddened to receive Coleman's resignation.

"I have worked with Mark over the past five years and he has always been professional, efficient, and dedicated to his job. His resignation is a true loss to Minden Hills and I'm sorry to see him go," Schell said in an email to the *Times*. She wished Coleman well in his new position.

In a press release, the Municipality of Brockton welcomes Coleman, touting his experience with Minden Hills.

"Mark has over 25 years of progressive management experience, having worked through various municipal organizations within the recreation departments," the release reads. "Mark has management experience in coordinating sports, and special events such as PAN AM Games venue, Canada 150 celebrations and supporting local bluegrass music festivals and fairs and has planned and implemented various projects and services that provided economic development and growth of recreation and tourism assets within the community including a \$12.5 million new arena/community centre in Minden Hills."

Coleman is also quoted in that release, saying, "My diverse leadership skills, education and extensive experience will benefit and support Brockton by helping to facilitate and promote health, active lifestyles to all residents, businesses and visitors while furthering the quality of life and economic wellbeing of the community."

The province's public sector salary disclosure list shows Coleman was paid nearly \$110,000 in 2018.



Nearly half of renters in unaffordable housing

from page 1

- consume less than 30 per cent of a household's gross income. The plan shows that between 2011 and 2016, the percentage of renters in Haliburton County spending more than 30 per cent of their income grew from 38.7 to 49.5, meaning that almost half of renters in the county are living in housing that is not considered affordable for them.

'The average market rent for an occupied unit has increased approximately 20 per cent since 2010 while vacancy rates decrease," the

For Haliburton County, a low-income rental household, one with an income at or below the 30th percentile, is considered one with an income of \$21,000 or less per year. An affordable rent for that household would mean a monthly rent of \$520 or less. A low-income home-owning household is considered one with an income \$39,400 or less per year, and an affordable house price for that household would be a home costing \$139,800 or less. A middle-income rental household, one with an income between the 30th and 60th percentile, is one with an income between \$21,000 and \$36,600 per year, with affordable monthly rent considered between \$520 and \$920. A middle-income home-owning household is one with an income between \$39,400 and \$72,300, with affordable house prices between \$139,800 and \$259,500.

Combined, there are nearly 1,700 households on the waiting list for subsidized housing in the county and city, a 375 per cent increase since 2013. Of more than 1,000 subsidized rental units in the two municipalities, fewer than 100 vacate annually, meaning the average wait time is now more than four years long, and households applying today

may wait as long as seven years.

According to a homelessness survey conducted by the city, the number of chronically homeless people in Haliburton County and the City of Kawartha Lakes combined hovers around 60, chronic homelessness meaning that someone is without a place of their own to live for six or more months in a year.

The survey asked respondents what the most important thing for the city to know was, regarding housing and homelessness programs and services. The top responses were affordable rents, preferably geared to income; the lack of affordable housing options; having rent caps or rent controls; assistance for people to manage existing housing; and public transportation.

In terms of housing targets, three models were developed and presented to the councils of Haliburton County and the City of Kawartha Lakes, respectively. Those models were essentially the status quo, which is not meeting housing needs, a middle option that would not eliminate housing needs but seek to improve the availability gap, or an "ideal" option, which should meet forecasted housing needs in the next decade.

"The recommended target was the ideal model as it provides direction and supports planning to identify how affordable housing demand can be met over the next 10 years,' reads a report from Lee.

Both councils endorsed the ideal model in the fall, with the council for the City of Kawartha Lakes pledging to create 1,280 units by 2029, and Haliburton County 750 units by 2029. Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt has suggested the county look at creating a housing task force at the uppertier level.

Toys still needed for **Christmas hampers**

by CHAD INGRAM Times Staff

The Minden Food Bank is still seeking unwrapped toys for its Minden Community

Christmas Basket program this year. The annual program provides donated Christmas dinners, as well as toys, for families in need. Unwrapped toys can be dropped off at the TD and CIBC branches in Minden, the Minden LCBO, the Minden Hills fire hall or the Minden Hills municipal office at 7

Milne St. Toys can be dropped off until Dec. 19, when they will be taken to the community centre for sorting and distribution.

Any community members who wish to donate their time to assist with the process can go to the community centre between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 19 and Friday, Dec. 20.

Families with children can pick up baskets between 1 and 2 p.m. on Dec. 20, and adults are invited to pick up baskets between 2 and 3 p.m. the same day.



Photo fundraiser garners donations for food bank

Dr. Jenn Morrow, front left, of the Minden Animal Hospital presents Joanne Barnes of the Minden Food Bank with a cheque for \$470. The money was raised at an annual event hosted by the clinic, where residents can have pictures of their pets taken with Santa Claus. Morrow opened her new Minden Animal Hospital on Booth Street this spring. /CHAD INGRAM Staff



7 MILNE STREET PO Box 359, Minden, ON KOM 2KO Telephone: 705–286–1260 Toll Free: 1–844–277–1260 Fax 705–286–4917 Roads: 705-286-3144 Community Services: 705-286-1936

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www.mindenhills.ca

Seasons Greetings

From the **Township of Minden Hills**

Council and Staff would like to wish everyone in Minden Hills a very Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!

MUNICIPAL HOLIDAY HOURS

Administration Office
Dec 16th to Dec 23rd 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM CLOSED Dec 24th at 11:30 AM to Jan 1st, 2020

Cultural Centre/Agnes Jamieson Gallery

<u>Landfills</u>
All Sites are **CLOSED** Dec 25th & Jan 1st

Minden Hills Community Centre CLOSED Dec 24th at 11:00 AM to Dec 26th Dec 27th to Dec 30th – Call for Hours $Dec 31^{st} 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM$ CLOSED Jan 1st

Community Services Department

Administration Office
Dec 16th to Dec 20th 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM Dec 23rd 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM CLOSED Dec 24th at 11:30 AM to Jan 1st, 2020

Regular hours resume Jan 2nd

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Public Welcome

Meetings are held at 9:00 AM in the Minden Council Chambers, 7 Milne Street.

Dec 12 - Combined COTW & Council Meeting Jan 30 - Combined COTW & Council Meeting

For Council, Boards & Advisory Committee meetings, visit www.mindenhills.ca

Note: Council meetings are reduced to one (1) for the months of December and January.

WINTER PARKING

From Nov 1st to Apr 30th, overnight parking is prohibited between the hours of midnight and 8:00 AM on township roadways and parking lots. Furthermore, parking in the turning circle of a cul-de-sac is prohibited during all hours. Vehicles parked in these areas that prohibit the removal of snow will be towed away and/or ticketed at the owner's expense.

WINTER SAND AVAILABLE FOR **RESIDENTIAL USE**

Is available at the Minden Curling Club parking lot, 50 Prentice Street for residential use. Please note there is a limit of one five-gallon container per car. Sand is for personal use only, no commercial users please.

CALL FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Township of Minden Hills is looking for volunteers to participate as members on the Minden Hills Community Centre Fundraising Working

If you, or someone you know, enjoy being involved in an interactive volunteer committee, and/or want to be part of a historic, community based project for Minden Hills, and/or have fundraising experience, and/or administrative skills please complete and submit an Advisory Committee Application Form in person, by mail or email to

Minden Hills Community Centre Fundraising Group Application Clerk's Department, 2nd floor Township of Minden Hills 7 Milne Street, PO Box 359 Minden, ON K0M 2K0 or email: sprentice@mindenhills.ca

This is an open call for applications until membership is filled.

For more information, please contact Mark Coleman, Director of Community Services at mcoleman@mindenhills.ca. Application Forms are available online at https://mindenhills.ca/advisory-committees-2/.

CHRISTMAS FOOD & TOY DROP OFF

In support of the Annual Minden Community Christmas Basket Program, donations of non-perishable food items and new, unwrapped children's toys can be dropped off at the following locations:



- · Municipal Administration Office, 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM. Monday to Friday · Minden Hills Fire Department
 - Donations will be accepted until December 18, 2019

Teachers increase pressure on government

High school and AAEC included in planned one-day strike

by JENN WATT

Editor

The union representing secondary school teachers says its members at certain school boards, including Trillium Lakelands District School Board, will participate in a second one-day strike on Wednesday, Dec. 11, if a deal cannot be made with the provincial government.

The announcement came on Friday, two days following the first one-day strike of Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation members on Dec. 4, which closed schools across the province including Haliburton Highlands Secondary School.

TLDSB updated its website on Friday announcing that the strikes will affect teachers at its secondary and adult and alternate education schools and that following the strike on Dec. 11, teachers would be returning to work Dec. 12.



What's proposed by the government is drastically going to change education as we know it.

— TEACHER RYAN MERRITT



ed, although those teachers, represented doesn't work for all students, who have variby a different union, are in the midst of work-to-rule job action.

OSSTF says that its issues include the government's planned increases to average class sizes, mandatory online credits, and cost-ofliving wage increases.

Pressure is being put on the government because of what is at stake for the education system, said HHSS teacher Ryan Merritt, branch president for the OSSTF District 15, while out on the picket line Dec. 4.

"What's proposed by the government is drastically going to change education as we know it and we are here to stop the cuts ... [which would increase] classroom sizes, [the introduction of mandatory] online learning, and yes, the wage increase is part of that as well, but this action is really propelled by the cuts to classroom resources and how it affects the students," he said.

Currently, the provincial government's bargaining team is proposing class size averages of 25, up from 22, and two mandatory online learning credits a s a graduation requirement.

Merritt said that he teaches a guitar class at HHSS that, due to class size requirements, includes students from Grade 9 to 12, who have a wide range of skill and experience levels, making his job particularly challenging.

"I'm pulled in so many different directions, physical locations, I'm pulled. It's difficult, it's really hard," he said, adding how much he enjoys teaching guitar.

Teachers say increasing the class sizes further divides the teacher's time, giving

Elementary schools are not affect- less attention to students and that e-learning ous learning styles and skills. More than one teacher told the paper during the protest that the e-learning component goes against past policy of accommodating students' learning

"You have years and years of skill development on differentiated instruction and learning styles and learning skills and all of a sudden you mandate two online learning platforms without any consideration of what we've been doing for the last 10 years or more with PD [professional development] and adjusting and accommodating. That doesn't happen on an online platform," Merritt said.

He also pointed out that in Haliburton County, not all homes have access to the internet.

In a statement on Wednesday, Dec. 4, Minister of Education Stephen Lecce said the government was reasonable in negotiations and said OSSTF "have not made any substantial moves since their first proposal was tabled. Even while the government made enhanced offers, there is no indication OSSTF intends to make any moves, except to affirm their insistence on a \$1.5 billion increase in pay and benefits."

On Dec. 7, Harvey Bischof, president of OSSTF, addressed that statement: "OSSTF/ FEESO's compensation proposal of a cost of living adjustment pegged to inflation for our members has a value of \$200 million, a different order of magnitude from the minister's claim.'

Break-in at Carnarvon lumber yard

Haliburton Highlands OPP are looking for two men who broke into a lumber yard in Carnarvon on Monday.

The two suspects were caught on video stealing bundles of shingles, a small amount of cash, electric saws, drills and a grinder from Cottage Country Building Supplies.

Police were called to the business on Monday, Dec. 9 at about 6:30 a.m.

The video of the break-in can be viewed on the Facebook page of Cottage Country Building Supplies.

Anyone with information on the incident is encouraged to call police at 705-286-1431, the Provincial Communication Centre at 888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers at 800-222-8477. You can submit an anonymous tip online at www.ontariocrimestoppers.ca.





www.hhhs.ca

HHHS IS LOOKING FOR NEW DIRECTORS

Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) Corporation has openings for new directors - local residents and cottage owners who want to help build on the outstanding health services currently provided in the county. HHHS operates facilities in Minden and Haliburton providing hospital (emergency services, acute care, and palliative), long-term care, and community services.

HHHS is privileged to have an outstanding team of health professionals and modern facilities. Challenges persist in attracting new staff, meeting the needs of our aging population, and anticipating/planning for the future.

The HHHS Board strives to bring together a group of individuals with knowledge of the community. HHHS is particularly interested in hearing from people with knowledge, experience, and/or interest in any of the following areas:

- planning and delivery of quality and accessible health services
- clinical
- legal
- information technology
- public relations/communications
- human resources
- participating on a community board

If you feel you have the time, energy, and commitment to be a Director, then we would like to hear from you by January 31, 2020. The new Directors will be appointed at the annual general meeting in June.

In addition to new director positions, HHHS is accepting applications for community members on its Finance and Quality Committees.

For further information and an application, please access our website at: www.hhhs.ca / administration & board / board & oversight

Or contact: Marlene Vieira

Executive Assistant to President & CEO and Board Phone (705) 457-2527

mvieira@hhhs.ca



Realtors give back to food banks

Century 21 Granite Realty Group makes a \$1,000 donation, half of which will go to the Minden Food Bank, half to the Haliburton 4Cs Food Bank, with realtors themselves donating the funds. Pictured from left are David Lee, Don Veno of the Minden Food Bank board, Tom Ecclestone, Andrew Hodgson, Minden Food Bank manager Joanne Barnes, Christine Sharp, Anne Hodgson, Lee Gauthier and Kelsey Johnston. /CHAD INGRAM









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Stocking up the bank

COUPLE OF weeks ago, I met with members of a local lake association for a story about a food drive they do each Thanksgiving, bringing food and money to the Minden Food Bank.

One member said she thought the food drive had been eye-opening for some of the association's members who may not have realized the amount of poverty that exists in the county, or how many families, and children, in particular, are reliant on the food bank.

And that was striking to me. In that moment I realized that I've become desensitized to the fact that so many local families do rely so heavily on food banks and other agencies in order to get by. It's become normalized.

I've been a year-round resident of Haliburton County for 11 years now and my job means that I've become more than familiar with the plight of many of its residents, the ongoing efforts of local non-profit social services agencies to fill gaps, and the ongoing efforts of municipal governments to grow the county's seasonal economy so that more residents might live more prosperous

The glittery sheen of summertime in Haliburton County is an illusion in a way, its seemingly prosperous bustle a mirage that is stripped away once Thanksgiving passes and winter sets

There are currently 225 families registered with the Minden Food Bank. That number will dip in the summertime with the hiring of people for seasonal positions, and then rise again at the end of the summer when those jobs disappear until the weather gets warm again.

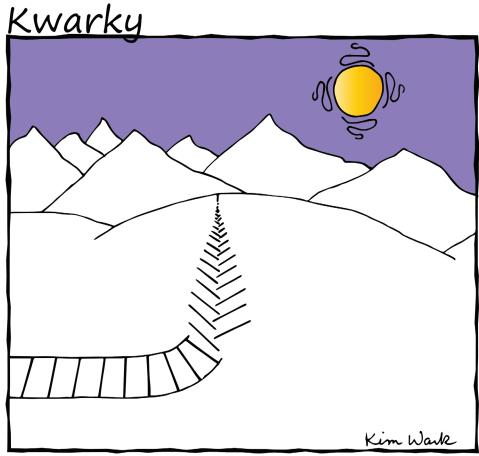
As many as 40 per cent of families using the food bank at any time have members with jobs. The food bank's manager says there's been an increase in the numbers of so-called "working poor" in recent years, people with jobs but who turn to the food bank, typically in the last 10 or so days of the month, in order to get by.

Twenty-five per cent of children aged 17 or under in Haliburton County live in low-income households. Schools have reported that some kids from low-income

households do not look forward to summer break, as they know it means they will eat less without the snack and lunch programs provided



we approach the holidays, which can be as tough a time for some as they are merry for others. Those of us with more than we need should think about giving those having trouble making ends meet a leg up. Along with the food bank in Minden, which is still seeking unwrapped toys for its annual Christmas basket program, there are food banks in Haliburton, Kinmount and Wilberforce. There is Heat Bank Haliburton County, which helps financially struggling residents heat their homes through the winter. There is SIRCH's Gifts from the Heart Campaign, which provides a variety of social services programming in the community. There is Food for Kids, which provides nutritious food for students at schools in the county. There is no shortage of places to make a donation that will have a profoundly positive, local, impact.



Train Tracks in Ski Country

The fine art of slipping

STEVE GALEA

Beyond 35

OW THAT winter is here and there is a layer of malevolent ice under the snow in almost every place I decide to walk upon, I think it is time we review some of the nuances of slipping in a outdoors setting.

Before we begin this discussion, we need to acknowledge that if you are an outdoor enthusiast, you are going to slip in front of witnesses this year. They might even be the worst kind of witnesses - people you know.

Oh sure, some of you will tell yourselves this won't happen. However, if the last 40 years are any indication, trust me, it will.

This is one of the great things that we outdoorsy folks in northern climates have in common - fall related misery. This is primarily because

we are nowhere near as smart as bears. Instead, we decide to "make the most" of winter. The good news is most

slips in the outdoors are easily avoidable by taking a few simple precautions which include: staying inside for

the entire winter, employing the little-used technique of total immobility when outside, wearing cleats and using walking sticks and meticulously planning every step using algorithms and computer modelling, crawling painstakingly slowly over the snow and ice, being towed around in a sled by a reliable manservant, using a flamethrower to melt all ice in your path, and leaving for tropical destinations in early September and returning in June.

Without simultaneously utilizing at least four of these precautions, you will certainly slip at least once this winter. Quite possibly more.

The trick is to do it with dignity and panache.

One of the best ways to maintain your dignity and panache is to not draw undue attention to yourself during the slip. That's why it is best to learn to whimper quietly, rather than to produce high-pitched screams. Admittedly, this can be difficult, especially if the fall is of longer duration than two Mississippis. But, with practice it can be achieved.

Once mastered, the hardest part is keeping the thud at low volume.

Snowbanks help.

There are many ways to quickly mitigate the evidence that suggests that you were once again bested by winter. My personal favourite is to quickly burrow in the snow bank

until all witnesses are well out of sight. Another is to immediately transition into snow angel mode. Make sure you are right side up, however. Otherwise people suspect.

It's also advisable to immediately roll down your balaclava and pretend you are from out of town, when people come to ask if you are all right and tell you which social media platform you will be showcased on.

If you are recognized by someone after a display of clumsiness, you might be able to talk your way out of further embarrassment with one of the following handy phrases:

"I am working out my Cirque de Soleil

"I was trying to see why ostriches do that."

I wanted to confirm gravity works like they told us in school."

Or, as you point to the cliff, you just slid off of, "That's the last time I buy a parachute off the internet."

Any of these will soothe your ego and provide you with enough self assurance so that you can walk up to your witness, look them straight in the eyes, and ask if they know of any good manservants looking for seasonal work.



CHAD INGRAM Reporter

INOTHERWORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

Playing at centre ice

THE BEST position in hockey surely is the centre. The centre player not only needs to be a fast skater, but a fast thinker capable of quickly grasping and assimilating the thinking of both left and right wingers.

Hockey centres often are team leaders. Almost half of the 31 National Hockey League teams have captains that are centres, a high proportion considering each team carries only four centres against eight wingers and six

Outside of hockey, centre has become an almost forgotten position. Too few of us consider the centre these days, preferring to lock ourselves into the right or the left wings. And too often, tight against the boards on the

very extreme sides of those wings.



JIM POLING SR. From Shaman's Rock

It wasn't always that way. Politicians, and the folks that put them into power, used to listen to the views of the other wings, consider them and sometimes work them into their own positions. That's the way things got done – bipartisan thinking building consensus to do the things needed.

The concept of left and right wings in politics is relatively new. The terms were coined during the French Revolution of 1789. Since then they have morphed into the nightmarish chaos we now see in the United States, and to a lesser extent in

Canada.

In recent times the wings have taken on distinct colours. Red, the colour of Communists, social democrats and generally liberal thinkers in many countries, now is associated with the right-wing Republicans in the U.S. Blue is the colour of the left and so we have red states and blue states.

It's the opposite in Canada where Liberal-leaning areas are red and Conservative areas are blue.

Sadly absent in my opinion is white, the colour of centre ice before the logos are painted on.

Why people and their politicians have moved from centre ice thinking off to the wings is difficult to explain. Perhaps they fear being labelled wishywashy for sitting in the middle considering all sides of a position or argument. Or maybe it is because solid white, certainly in the case of a flag, is the symbol of giving up and we don't want to be seen as weak.

Whatever, no one should assume that taking a position at centre, thoughtfully weighing facts and considering all sides of an issue, should be taken as a synonym for weakness.

White is a positive colour associated with illumination, understanding and clearing away clutter. It also is a colour known to aid mental clarity.

Mental clarity certainly is needed in these raucous and confused times. It simply is not good enough to yap something unintelligent on a complicated issue presented by a person you do not like.

For example, I am no fan of Premier Doug Ford's style. But I understand his government's spending cuts.

Ontario simply cannot afford to go on spending the way it has. The provincial debt is projected to hit \$325 billion for the 2019-2020 fiscal year, depending on whose figures you choose to believe.

Whatever the figure, we all know the provincial debt is far too large. If we don't get it under control, we all are going to suffer greatly in the future.

So, we can criticize Ford but cuts are necessary. Where he is making them is another matter – a question that should be open to calm and rational

Government program cuts always hurt someone. No one wants cuts where it will affect them. That's why someone needs to initiate some centre ice discussions to build a consensus on how to cut back with the least impact on fewest people, and the most vulnerable.

Similarly, I am not a fan of Justin Trudeau, particularly his judgment. However, I understand his dilemma of allowing more pipelines that will help worsen global warming, or not allowing them and risking more western uprising and possible separation.

There are many such problems that will not be solved with only wild right- or left-wing play. We voters need to get our sticks on the ice and spend more time at the thoughtful centre.

You score more goals by keeping your head up and considering all the play than by skating about wildly, shouting polarized and radical opinions.

Ride inside

TAUGHT SPINNING (indoor group cycling) classes for years. When I first started teaching, a friend said to me "So, let me get this straight - you're teaching people how to ride a stationary bike?" It is a very strange concept when you think about it. I loved teaching the classes. It was a like a party on a bike. Great music led to great energy. Back then it was just the participant and the bike. No dumbbells or

built in computers. The moves were simple. As instructors, we encouraged people to do only what they were comfortable doing. Things have changed.

There are so many different class types now. You can go to a club to attend in person or participate online in real time or ride to a pre-recorded class. You can put your bike on a trainer and hook it up to the internet and watch yourself

(avatar) ride on a virtual road with people you do or don't know. You can spend thousands of dollars on bikes that have a screen built in. You can pay monthly fees or pay as you go. The options are endless. It's hard to figure out what is the best option.

Here's my two cents... take the path of least expense. The joke in the fitness industry is that home workout equipment often becomes a place to hang clothing. The most important thing is that you are motivated to

get on the bike for a workout. If you don't like riding a bike outside there's a chance that you won't like riding one inside either. If this is you or you're not sure about the whole riding a stationary bike thing start by attending a class or two at a club. If you like being on the bike but don't like the club atmosphere look for options to try it at home. Borrow a bike or buy something second hand. Most of the online classes have a

> free trial period. Try a bunch of them. I understand that they work on a computer or tablet (iPad). Hopefully you have a device already and a decent internet connection.

> There are so many benefits to riding a bike. It is worth finding a method to keep you pedalling all year round. If you're fortunate enough to have a bike sitting idle in your house right now pull it out.

Dust it off. Grab a water bottle and put on your favourite tunes. As your legs get spinning, close your eyes and imagine being on a road in your favourite part of the world. It is as simple as that.

Something to think about.

Laurie Sweig is a certified personal fitness trainer and spinning instructor. She owns and operates The Point for Fitness. She can be reached at laurie@thepointfor-

1,600 lbs of food collected

Practical Fitness

Dorset News

Lee Ross burgesslt@me.com

Dorset's annual Food and Toy Drive took place on Wednesday, Dec. 4 and thanks to your generous donations, close to 1,600 pounds of food was collected and over \$1,400. If you weren't home or your house was missed (it does happen) you can drop off donations to the shopping cart at Robinson's. Thank you to everyone who volunteered and donated.

The Winter Pantry is once again doing their Reverse Advent Calendar. The idea is, that instead of opening a gift each day, you place an item in a box, then donate it to the Winter Pantry. Each week the Winter Pantry will post that week's wish list on their social media accounts. Every week has a theme

such as breakfast items, condiments, canned goods, etc. Just before Christmas you can take your box to the LCBO in Dorset or Baysville. This is a fun activity you can do as a family and it helps children learn the importance of giving, especially during the holidays

Voting is now open for Dorset's Christmas decorating contest. Visit Dorset Recreation Centre on Facebook or drop in to the rec centre to cast your vote. Voting will be open until Saturday, Dec. 14 and the winner will be announced by Monday, Dec. 16. Good luck to everyone who entered.

Happy Birthday to Chris Davis, Caitlin Davies, Jeaninne Dunn, Barb Jordan, Cameron Nash, Tony Arkell, Thomas Keown, John Hutchinson and Jim Jones. Happy Anniversary to Boyd and Diane Griffin and Bill and June Johnson. For birthdays and submissions please send them to burgesslt@me.com.

Jr. Book of the Month - December



The Best of Lewis Carroll

Illustrated by John Tenniel and Henry Holiday

Charles Lutwidge Dodson used the pen name "Lewis Carroll" when he first wrote his fantastical tales of well-dressed rabbits, angry red Queens, and fast-talking, chain-smoking caterpillars.

More than 150 years later, his whimsical stories and poems are still a delight to a world audience of both adults and children alike. Now, Carroll's most acclaimed works: "The Hunting of the Snark," "Tangled Tales," "Phantasmagoria," "Nonsense from Letters," and, certainly, the adventures of Alice herself, have been brought together in one magical volume. Included, too, are facsimiles of the memorable original illustrations for the Alice books by the eminent

English artist, Sir John Tenniel. Tenniel's drawings won instant renown for their perfect pairing with Carroll's text. Other illustrations in this richly satisfying collection are by the well-known artist, Henry Holiday. Check it out today from HCPL!

County to change advisory committee format

its advisory committee structure for a year's trial in 2020 to see how it goes.

Currently, the county's advisory committees consist of some of the county's eight councillors, along with senior staff for a given department. The roads advisory commit-

The County of Haliburton will be changing tee, for example, includes five councillors, who hear recommendations from senior staff, discuss and then make recommendations to county council as a whole. A different member of council chairs each of those committees. Committee meetings are held the second Wednesday of most months, with a full

council meeting on the fourth Wednesday. The majority of the time, recommendations from advisory committees are ultimately passed by county council.

For 2020, the format will switch to a committee-of-the-whole model; with all members of county council sitting in a large committee meeting that will essentially meld most of the existing advisory committee meetings together.

"I don't think there's necessarily a right or a wrong way, but I favour a committeeof-whole structure," said Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts during a Nov. 27 county council meeting. Haliburton County council consists of the mayors and deputy mayors of each of the county's four lower-tier municipalities.

On days when committee meetings are held, most county councillors are there most of the day, with breaks between during committee meetings they are not part of. Procedurally, while watching a committee they are not part of, they are essentially a member of the public, therefore not involved in the conversation. However, as Roberts pointed out, often in these scenarios, if an observing councillor in the gallery has a point they would like to make, the chair often allows this.

Her colleagues were supportive of giving the model a trial run in 2020.

The Township of Minden Hills uses a committee-of-the-whole model. While it still has citizen advisory committees, reports from those committees are brought to a committee-of-the-whole meeting (consisting of all members of council) mid-month, where recommendations are discussed, and those recommendations are then either passed or not at a full council meeting near the end of each month.

As Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin pointed out, during Minden Hills committeeof-the-whole meetings, whichever council member chairs a respective advisory committee acts as the committee-of-the-whole chairperson for the portion of the meeting where that portfolio is being discussed. He suggested that county committee-of-thewhole meeting could use the same format, with the chairs of existing committees becoming temporary chairs during the course of the meetings, with the meeting opened and adjourned by the warden.

Algonquin Highlands Deputy Mayor Liz Danielsen, who was county warden for 2019 and has been acclaimed by colleagues to serve again as warden for 2020, said she could see the benefits to such a format, but didn't want to see councillors' remuneration shrink as a result.

"I wouldn't like to see anybody paid less than they are now," she said.

County councillors currently receive \$80 per committee meeting on top of their remuneration for attending regular meetings. Base remuneration for county councillors, paid on per diem basis, equates to just more than \$8,000 per year, or more in the \$15,000 to \$20,000 range for whoever is warden for the year. That's on top of their remuneration at their respective lower-tier levels. Mayors and deputy mayors throughout the county's four lower-tier townships make somewhere between \$20,000 and \$30,000 a year, varying by township. Municipal political positions in the county are considered part time.

Roberts suggested the remuneration could work out so that councillors' overall income would not drop.

Chief administrative officer Mike Rutter as asked if a committee-of-the-whole structure would reduce work for staff. He said perhaps slightly, not significantly, and stressed that shouldn't be a factor in council's decision.

Ultimately, councillors were favourable to trying the new format for year.

There are a few advisory committees that include members of the public such as committees for tourism and accessibility, and those committee structures would remain the same, it was indicated at the meeting.

Chad Ingram, Staff



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((SiriusXM))

Penny's Place offers children's clothing



by CHAD INGRAM Times Staff

Haliburton County residents looking for affordable children's clothing will soon have to look no further than down-

Penny's Place, located at 112 Bobcaygeon Rd., the former home of Clothes Encounters of the Thrift Kind, will have an official grand opening on Jan. 7, but residents are invited to stop in and browse while the business is being converted.

"Basically, we are downsizing the amount of men's and women's clothing," says Alexandra Harrison, who purchased Clothes Encounters and is transforming it from a thrift store to a consignment shop that will carry mainly children's clothing and accessories.

"It's no longer a thrift, it's a consignment," she says, rearranging racks inside the storefront on Minden's main drag.

Harrison and her family moved the county from Palmerston, Ont. in the fall of 2017, purchasing their first home. She told the Times that since that time, she's had the idea of opening a children's clothing shop on her mind.

"We found it was hard to find anything for the little ones," Harrison said. "When we were pregnant with Penny, I found it hard to find maternity stuff."

In addition to eight-month-old Penny, for whom the business is named, Harrison has two sons who attend Archie

Alexandra Harrison and daughter Penny outside Penny's Place on Bobcaygeon Road in downtown Minden. A consignment shop for children's clothing, Penny's Place will have a grand opening on Jan. 7, but residents are invited to browse while the shop is getting set up, or call to make a consignment appointment. / **CHAD INGRAM Staff**

Stouffer Elementary School.

"Really, the goal of the entire business is to serve the entire community," she says. "There are families here who can't afford to buy new."

In addition to children's clothing and accessories, Penny's Place will carry a limited supply of quality men's and wom-

In terms of naming the business for her youngest child, "We thought that it was cute," Harrison says. "She's our only little girl, and probably the last."

While hours are currently limited as Harrison works to get Penny's Place set up, residents are welcome to come in and look around if they notice the shop open as she prepares for her Jan. 7 grand opening. They can also call 705-286-0401 to schedule a consignment appointment.

Penny's Place also has a Facebook page and Instagram



Penny's Place will offer a selection of used children's clothing in good condition, as well as a limited selection of quality men's and women's wear. /CHAD INGRAM Staff

Food and donations collected through Fill a Cruiser

The Haliburton Highlands OPP report that this year's Fill a Cruiser food drive was a success with 869 bags of food collected and another \$952 in cash.

Police collected the donations in Haliburton and Minden on Saturday, Nov. 30 and took it all to local food banks.

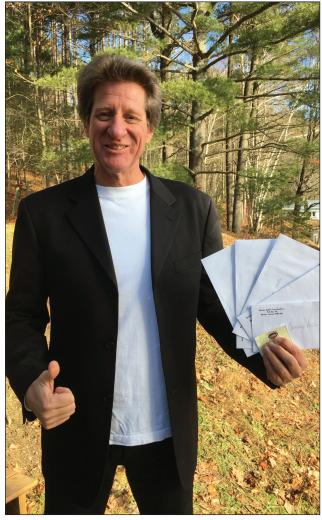
The police thank all who participated.

Black Friday winner

Congratulations to Doug Eastman of Minden, a longtime subscriber to the Minden Times, on winning a pair of Toronto Maple Leafs tickets during the Minden Times and Haliburton Echo subscription promotion last month. Those buying a subscription or renewing on Black Friday had their names entered into the draw.



@MindenTimes



Feasting in the Highlands

Wayne Neale of Bob Lake was the lucky winner of the Minden Auxiliary Feasting in the Highlands raffle. The prize was \$100 gift certificates to each of Rhubarb, Bonnie View, Riverside, Heather Lodge and Pepper Mill. /Submitted by Anne Stephens

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Sr Hawks contain Bulldogs in home opener

by DARREN LUM

Times Staff

Everyone got what they wanted from the Red Hawks senior boys' basketball home opener against the Brock High School Bulldogs on Thursday, Dec. 5 in Haliburton.

The hometown fans went home happy and proud of the red and white. The Hawks players earned the satisfaction from the win against an A classified school, and have a clean start to the season. The coach got the effort and execution ... at least for most of the game. The rookies showed their mettle, fitting in and not looking uncomfortable.

Co-coach Paul Longo, who coaches with Sam Little, said he loved his team's effort despite the finish, which saw the Bulldogs reduce a 17-point lead down to six at the buzzer.

"It was a nice way to start, get a win. You know, we were up pretty good there in the fourth quarter. We let them back in with some threes, but overall pretty happy with the effort and everybody's contributing, which is great. We had some new guys. Two or three guys, who haven't played any organized ball in high school. And now they've come in, listening and have learned fast," he said.

He adds Micheal Stevens had five points in the fourth quarter, which was huge. Kyle Davis had two buckets in the post.

"I'm really happy with the overall effort of all 15 guys," he said.

Who loves pressure? Well, from watching the home opener, the Hawks really like to put the screws to their opponent. Longo said he liked the way his players executed the press and how they hustled.

"They like to press. These guys like to run and get in [and get] dirty," he said, referring to tenacity and on-ball aggression, but not illegal play. "So, I really was impressed by our second unit there today: Teo O'Malley, Tevan Sullivan, James Alexander, and our big guys, Jaxon [Gill] and Ethan Glecoff. I really like the way they were calm on the floor today and had some great defensive stops. They gave us some buckets. So, yeah, overall a good start."

Longo said this is the first senior game for all of the players since the Hawks did not have a senior team last year. A few players, he added, never even played high school ball before.

When asked about the few occurrences when the team lost its composure and appeared to rush, leading to several turnovers, Longo chalked it up to youthful exuberance.

"That's just typical of high school where guys just lose their minds for a bit and then you got to settle them down, but these guys, you know, most of these guys have been playing together since Grade 9 now. We're three years in. They know each other and

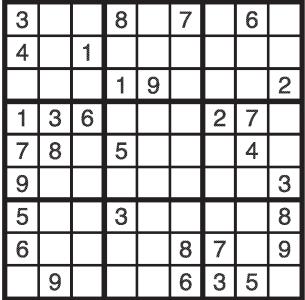


School Basketball League action on Thursday, Dec. 5 in Haliburton. The Hawks hung on for the 52-46 win, holding off a hard charging Bulldogs team to win the home opener. Although Brian Kim led the Hawks with nine points, the Hawks had contributions up and down the lineup with 12 different players scoring at least one basket. /DARREN LUM Staff

Sudoku brought to you by



SUDOKU



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Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 12

they're really starting to feel comfortable with each other on the floor. I don't know what this year will hold overall for senior [boys] we're hoping for good things. Again, we're kind of building for next year too. As a Grade 12 squad next year, I think we could do some very serious damage," he said.

Ten of the 15 are in Grade 11, he said. Three are in Grade 12 and two in their fifth year.

Longo points out his starting five (Marra, Kim, Dupret-Smith, Joe Boice, Ryan Mee) for this game are all Grade 11s.

"That's big for them get a nice big win against, you know, a team that has a bunch of Grade 12s on it so that's good," he said.

Although the team had three set lines of five play the game, Longo said not to expect that to be the practice.

"First game of the year I wanted everybody to feel the floor and get into it and feel like they're part of something, and they are. And, I told them in the dressing room after, I said, we don't really have three lines. I can throw anybody on with anybody else and I wanted to do it today. I didn't know if it was going to work or not. I was ready to pull it off pretty quickly, but I felt it was working. I felt like it was working. Everybody was contributing. All three groups were contributing and, again, the most important thing we played really good D in the first half. We held them to 17 points in the first half so I think near the end there we got a bit lazy on D because we thought the game was out of reach," he said, referring to how a 17-point lead was reduced to six. "Basketball can change on a dime, right? No lead is safe."

The overall message for his team was that he appreciated the effort and how they executed in the defensive end, particularly in the first half.

"Really good start. Impressive D in the first half. We got lots of work to do," he





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UPCOMING

Community **Events**

Want to get your event in Community Calendar? It's free! Contact Pat at classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

Lochlin United Church Annual Community Old Fashioned Christmas Carol Sing Along

When: Wednesday, Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m.

Where: 1050 Lochlin Road off Gelert Road (County Rd 1). Great music accompaniment with Rev. Harry Morgan and "Friends."

Refreshments following: Hot cider and Christmas goodies Donations to the Food Banks gratefully accepted.

Sexual Health Clinic

When: Wednesday, Dec. 11, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. The clinic provides clients with confidential access to cervical screening, low-cost birth control, pregnancy testing and sexual health teaching. Testing and treatment of sexually transmitted infections are also provided. For more information, locations or to make an appointment, call the Health Unit at 1-866-888-4577, ext. 1205.

An Old-Fashioned Christmas

When: Wed, Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m.

Where: Highland Hills United Church in Minden. Christmas music presented by the Highlands Concert Band, and the Highlands Male Chorus. Entry by donation, and the funds raised will go to Abbey Retreat Centre and Food for Kids.

West Guilford Community Christmas Dinner

Medeba would like to invite you to our 6th annual complimentary Christmas Dinner

When: Saturday, Dec. 14, Appetizers at 5:30 p.m., Dinner at 6 p.m.

Where: Medeba Dining Hall, 1270 Kennisis Lake Road RSVP: Please RSVP by Friday, Dec. 6 to Katie by phone 705-754-2444 or by email katie@medeba.com

Santa at Lockside Trading Company

When: Saturday, Dec. 14 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Santa will be there for wishes and pictures. Do not forget your letters for Santa! They will be mailed out with return letters from Old Saint Nick himself. All proceeds going to Jack's Journey & MPS II Research Fund to learn more about Jack and MPS II visit http://www.jacksjourney.ca/ and www.lockside.com

Driver Training

When: Saturday, Dec. 14 at 8:30 a.m. Full day course. Where: HCSA clubhouse on Mallard Road in Haliburton's

If you have a young would-be snowmobiler in the house, will train your young rider on the safe operation of a snowmobile. Cost is \$40. To pre register go to http://www. hcsa.ca and click on Driver Training or call 705-457-4263

Haliburton Lions Children's Christmas Party

When: Sunday, Dec. 15, 3 to 4:30 p.m.

Where: Haliburton United Church

Free to children age 4 to 8 (Junior Kindergarten to Grade 3). There will be songs, games, crafts, treats and a new book for every child.

Space is limited and registration is required. Parent or Guardian please call Tina at 705 457-9399 to register. For more information, please visit our website at haliburtonlion.com

Glorious Christmas

When: Sunday, Dec. 15, 9:30 a.m.

Where: Highland Hills United Church, Minden Brunch following, by donation. Joint Worship Service churches will worship together 9:30 a.m. in Minden

Essonville Historic Church Christmas Service

When: Dec. 15, 7 p.m.

Where: 1284 Essonville Line, County Rd. 4 A celebration of Christmas with special music and congregational carol singing in an old-fashioned setting illuminated by candles and lanterns

"Come & Adore Him" Cantata by **Haliburton United Church Choir**

When: Sunday, Dec. 15, 11:15 a.m. Where: Haliburton United Church, 10 George St. at

Pine St., Haliburton

Directed by Melissa Stephens



Bulldogs hold off junior Hawks

Red Hawks junior boys basketball player Scott King, left, looks to block Brock High School's Taylor Garringer in Kawartha High School Basketball League action on Thursday, Dec. 5 in Haliburton. The Hawks' late-game heroics fell short and they lost 39-31 to the Bulldogs./DARREN LUM Staff



Bowling Scores

Monday afternoon, Dec. 2

High Average (cumulative) Women – Cathy Snell – 220

Men – Rick West – 228 This Week's Highs – Women

High Single – Cathy Snell – 304 High Single Hcp – Clara Vuksic – 336 High Triple – Cathy Snell – 714

High Triple Hcp – Clara Vuksic – 735

This Weeks Highs - Men

High Single - Rick West - 263 High Single Hcp – Gary Hunt – 265 High Triple – Gary Hunt – 625

High Triple Hcp – Gary Hunt – 712

Afternoon Bowling Scores Tuesday, Dec. 3

High Average – Claude Cote – 191 High Single – Claude Cote – 279 High Single H/C – Claude Cote – 307 High Triple - Claude Cote - 618

High Triple H/C – Claude Cote – 702 Women

High Average – Chris Cote – 183 High Single – Chris Cote – 230 High Single H/C - Chris Cote - 264

High Triple – Chris Cote – 615 High Triple H/C – Chris Cote – 717

Haliburton Red Wolves Bowling Scores

Casey Heley 171, Andrew Bourgeois 62, Brodie Mason 157, Andrea Austin 151, Skylar Pratt 150, Jason Kitchener 136

Hal High wrestlers show up to win

Wrestlers from Haliburton Highlands Secondary School hit the mats in fine form at the first tournament of the 2019/20 season.

Seven representatives of the Red Hawks Wrestling Team travelled to Peterborough on Dec. 5, to compete at the Kenner Rams Wrestling Invitational, which attracted over 130 athletes from the COSSA region and beyond.



Red Hawks wrestlers, back row from left, Eli Samson, Levi Samson, Ethan Coles, Owen Wootton, front row from left, Connie Oh, Brooklyn Spence and Nic Graham all won medals at the Kenner Rams Wrestling Invitational on Dec. 5 in Peterborough. The team finished with 19 wins to three losses on the day where more than 130 wrestlers from COSSA schools competed. Submitted by Paul Klose.

HHSS wrestlers had an outstanding day at the tournament. Overall, the team posted 19 wins and only three losses! All Red Hawks athletes competed extremely well throughout the day, showing the region that Hal High wrestlers show up to

Nic Graham (89 kg), Eli Samson (83 kg) and Connie Oh (57.5 kg) went undefeated in the senior divisions and returned home as champions of their respective weight classes. In the junior division, Grade 9 student Levi Samson (89 kg) wrestled solidly in his first tournament ever and won every one of his matches to take home the gold.

Owen Wootton (72 kg) placed second in his weight class, showing that no one can escape his pinning holds. Brooklyn Spence (51 kg) and Ethan Coles (67.5 kg) each posted a record of three wins and one loss to grab the bronze.

Congratulations to all wrestlers on a fantastic set of results! Submitted by Paul Klose

SUDOKU SOLUTION

3	2	9	8	4	7	5	6	1
4	5	1	2	6	3	8	9	7
8	6	7	1	9	5	4	3	2
1	3	6	9	8	4	2	7	5
7	8	2	5	3	1	9	4	6
9	4	5	6	7	2	1	8	3
5	7	4	3	2	9	6	1	8
6	1	3	4	5	8	7	2	9
2	9	8	7	1	6	3	5	4

Kinmount readies for Christmas

Right, two-year-old Lennon Werrendenberg is held by his mother, Amanda, of Minden, while looking for the elf for the Kinny Elf Hunt during Christmas in the Village.

Below, people wait in line and board the wagon for the horsedrawn wagon ride.







The festive spirit was alive and well at the Christmas Open House during Christmas in the Village on Saturday, Dec. 7 at the Kinmount Community Centre in Kinmount. Christmas in the Village included a variety of events such as the Christmas Open House. Breakfast with Santa, the Kinny Elf Hunt with free children's prizes, Christmas Music Night, horse-drawn wagon rides, and a Christmas tree lighting./ **DARREN LUM Staff**

Province in process of deconstructing LHINs

by CHAD INGRAM Times Staff

The following are brief reports of items discussed during a Dec. 5 meeting of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services

The Ford government continues its streamlining of the province's health-care system, which is planned to include the eventual elimination of the 14 Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) that were created under the province's previous Liberal government. They are being replaced with what the province is calling Ontario Health Teams, which are more localized in format.

"The 14 LHINs, the leadership of the 14 Local Health Integration Networks has been transitioned over to a more regional leadership approach, where there's now five CEOs," HHHS CEO Carolyn Plummer told board members. "The LHINs haven't been merged, but they've come together under a single leadership umbrella."

"That structure is going to be in place on an interim basis," Plummer said, until the transition to Ontario Health Teams is complete.

across the province," Plummer said, adding one was the approval of the nearby Durham Ontario Health Team. There is a proposal in the works for a Haliburton Highlands Ontario Family Health Team.

"Our team remains in development," Plummer said, explaining a number of working groups have been created, which are working toward a full application.

Lessons from power outage

A planned eight-hour power outage by Hydro One on Nov. 24 affected HHHS's Haliburton facility, but CEO Carolyn Plummer told board members the outage had gone smoothly, and that a plan that had been put in place could be used again in the future.

"We had a short window of time from when we were notified of the outage to when it actually happened," Plummer said. "But we were able to develop an action plan and a mitigation strategy plan for how we were going to make sure all of our patients, residents, families visitors and staff . . . were safe during that process and that services weren't disrupted during that process.'

HHHS met with reps from Hydro One leading up to the outage, and also made arrangements with partner organizations such the county's EMS department and regional hospitals.

"Everything went smoothly," Plummer said, adding that the process that had been developed could be used for any planned outages in the future. "It was nice to have the opportunity to go through that planning exercise, and I think it puts us in a good position, it was a good opportunity to test out that planning process.

Plummer extended thanks to all who'd been involved in the

"We do have backup generators, but they don't service 100 per cent of everything in the building," she said. "There was certainly a lot of effort to make sure the patients didn't suffer

Getting green

Irene Odell gave a report on the activities of HHHS's green advisory group, a relatively new group struck just a few months ago and led by Dr. Keith Hay.

"The goal of the group is to really make HHHS more environmentally responsible," Odell said, "and looking at reducing our carbon footprint, help with education and staff and leadership about the link between health and climate change and the impact that it has."

Efforts will focus mostly on more environmentally sustainable staff operations.

"We're focusing really internally, initially," Odell said.

Palliative brochure

"An end-of-life brochure has been put together that looks at palliative and medical assistance in death services that are provided at HHHS, and that will be soon available throughout the hospital," Dr. Keith Hay, interim chief of staff told board members.

Hay said that members of HHHS's medical advisory committee had also recently taken in a presentation from the software firm that will be supplying HHHS's electronic medical records system.

Deficit remains

"We are continuing to face the financial pressure of the Highlands Wood roof issue," finance committee chairman David O'Brien told the board.

Multiple roof leaks resulted in the closure of the Highland Wood long-term care home earlier this year resulted in its closure for nearly four months.

The deficit for expenses incurred was initially \$245,000 and currently sits at \$205,000. The closure, its resulting staff implications and the repair of the roof itself led to those costs.

"We're continuing to work with the LHIN to address our funding shortfalls, especially in the long-term care area," O'Brien said, referencing the fact the LHINs are in the process of being transformed by province. "So, that muddies the water a little bit, if you want," he said, "not to say that in negative way, but the LHINs are in transition and they are our funders and we have to deal with that change."

O'Brien said 2020/21 balanced operating plans have been submitted to the LHIN for approval. "They are submitted with no reduction in our services, and that's the important point I'd like to make."

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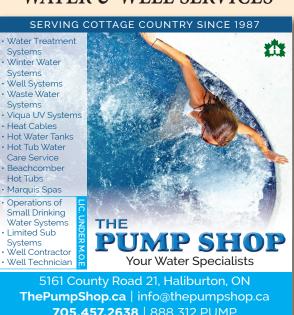


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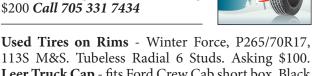
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NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF LANDS

UNDER AND BY VIRTUE OF a Writ of Execution filed with the Sheriff of the County of Haliburton, dated the 16th of October 2018, under writ file number 18-0000396, the real and personal property of SEAN BAILLIE, Debtor, at the request of EVENSON BUNDGARD LLP, Creditor, I have seized and taken in execution all the right, title, interest and equity of redemption of SEAN BAILLIE, Debtor, in and to: PT LT 11 CON 4 GUILFORD PT1 19R4394; S/GU626; UNITED TOWNSHIPS OF DYSART, DUDLEY, HARCOURT, GUILFORD, HARBURN, BRUTON, HAVELOCK, EYRE AND CLYDE municipally known as: Eagle Lake Road, Haliburton, Ontario All of which said right, title, interest and equity of redemption of SEAN BAILLIE, Debtor, in the said lands and tenements described above, I shall offer for sale by Public Auction subject to the conditions set out below at the Superior Court of Justice, 440 Kent Street West, Lindsay, Ontario K9V 6K2, Phone Number (705) 324-1400

on Friday, December 20th, 2019 at 11:00 a.m.

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Ten business days from date of sale to arrange financing and pay balance in full at Superior Court of Justice, 440 Kent Street West, Lindsay, Ontario K9V 6K2.

All payments in cash or by bank draft, certified cheque or money order made payable to the Minister of Finance.

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Peacefully at Ross Memorial Hospital, Lindsay, Ontario, on December 5, 2019 at the age of 89 years.

Cherished wife of the late George Michael Weisz (1987). Beloved mother of Linda Arlene Weisz, Georgina Marie Kernohan and Jeffery Raymond Weisz and predeceased by Gloria Ann Weisz. Gramma to Jeremy (Helen), Katie, Erin (Aaron), James, Meghan and Renee. Great-gramma to Ava, Ìsabella and Harrison. Survived by her devoted sister, Lois Mae Bell, sisters-in-law Anne Weisz and Katharine Corrion. Predeceased by her parents Jay and Blanche Jeffery and her brothers and sisters-in-law Glenn & Ilene, William & Shirley, Donald & Evelyn and Elton & Rachel Jeffery.

Survived by many nieces and nephews. Born and raised in Leamington, Ontario; resided in Weston, Ontario and Kitchener, Ontario.





Margot Ziörjen Of Minden who passed unexpectedly on December 4th, 2019

lovingly surrounded by her family.

Margot will always be in the hearts of her family. Her husband of almost 60 years, Gino Ziörjen (deceased 2017), her sister and niece Christiane and Dawn St. Aubin of Mississauga, and her children Thomas Ziörjen (deceased 2012) of Sechelt B.C., Jacqueline Ziörjen of Minden and Corry Ziörjen of Bracebridge. Oma will be missed dearly by Allana, Andrew and Zac, Matthew and Tristan and her great grand-baby-bear Rhea.

Margot was an incredibly strong, proud and determined individual who approached new adventures and learning with tenacity and fearlessness. She believed that you could do anything. Margot was a driving force with Dr. Jamieson to fundraise and build the Agnes Jamieson Gallery. Margot will also be remembered for her years of contribution to the Minden Times, her countless hours of prepping flowers and arrangements for the Minden Fair and the Horticultural Flower Show, and most recently her enjoyment of being part of the Minden Writers Group.

Margot was classy and refined, fastidious and thrifty, whimsical and quirky. Margot appreciated the minute details and beauty in nature. She worked tirelessly in her gardens stopping to smell each and every flower, forever looking for faeries and gnomes. Margot is certainly on her next journey tending to gardens, smelling the flowers, and dancing with those ever elusive faeries.

A heartfelt thank you to Nurse Tracy from Haliburton, and the amazing team of nurses and doctors at Ross Memorial Hospital in Lindsay, particularly Dr. Shepard, for their exceptional care and effort during Margot's hospital stay.

Please join the family on Saturday, December 14th between 1:00 - 4:00 pm at Of Sound Body, 114 Bobcaygeon Rd. Minden, for a gathering and celebration of Margot's life with a small tribute at 2:30pm.

In lieu of flowers, Memorial Donations to the Canadian Diabetes Association would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home

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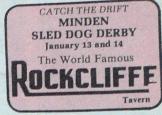
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Saturday, December 23, 1989

Highlights

Only in Canada

Those upset about the Health Minister's call for another health care study might be amused by some of the questions in her new Health Status Survey. Arthur Black gives us the inside story on page 4.

Sewer expansion

The Minister of the Environment will decide the fate of Dysart's sewage treatment plant expansion project in Please see page 10.

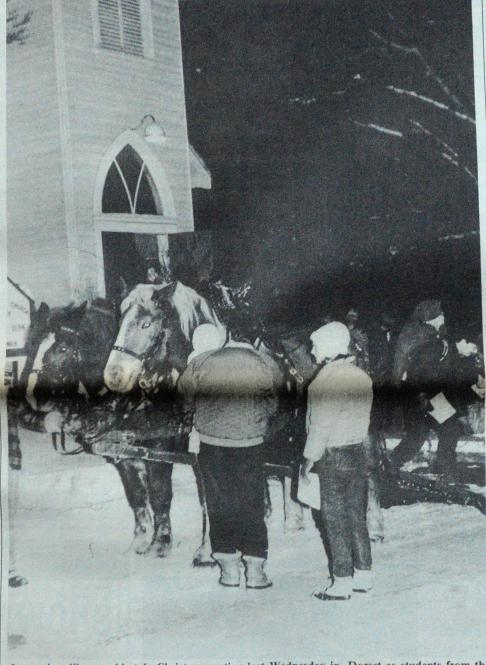
Sale of Village Green is delayed

The sale of Minden's Village Green has been delayed until January 11 in order that the township can prepare a by-law to dispose of the property.

The deal was supposed to have been completed last week, but Reeve Ray Moore told The Times Thursday that because a by-law was never prepared the sale can't be finalized until the next council meeting.

Minden accountant Gary Thurston has an offer on the property and it was on his suggestion that the sale is being delayed. Moore said that because the township passed by-laws for the sale of other property, Thurston felt one should be passed for the Village Green as well.

The sale includes the downtown parkette located beside the CIBC and the 20-space municipal parking lot which fronts on Peck



It was just like an old style Christmas outing last Wednesday in Dorset as students from the elementary school and dozens of others set out on a sleigh ride through the village singing Christmas Carols. One of the stops along the route was at the Dorset United Church. The ride started out at the school and wound up back at the community centre about an hour later, where baked goods and hot drinks were served.

Health study will let us have our say

by Jay Kerr-Wilson

The study of Haliburton County's longterm health care requirements will give local people a chance to tell the province what those requirements should be, says the chairman of the steering committee formed to conduct the study.

Other studies told residents what was needed," says Maureen Dikun of the District Health Council. "This study will let residents tell us what they want.'

The first meeting of the committee was held at Hyland Crest last Tuesday, and afterwards Dikun met with the two local papers to discuss the study.

The study's aim is to determine the long-term health needs of Haliburton County. It is a joint project of the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Commercial and Social Services.

The study is the first phase of the plan. Dikun says it should be completed by June at which time implementation of the committee's recommendation will begin.

Of particular interest to local residents is the fate of the proposed 18-bed chronic care facility planned for the Haliburton Hospital. One of the outcomes of the study will be to determine whether those beds are necessary or if the need can be met with other measures.

Funding for the expansion was approved by the Ministry of Health as part of an \$850 million initiative to create 4,400 new

Since that time, the Ministry of Health has frozen the funding for the capital projects and has ordered a review of the province's health care needs.

The aim of the review is to shift health services away from hospital beds and institutions and towards keeping people in their own homes longer

This review left the Haliburton Hospital expansion without any government funding just as the project was ready for construction to begin.

Despite a strong public lobby to have

(more on page 6)

Board hopes to build new schools

by Jay Kerr-Wilson

The Haliburton County Board of Education has revised its long- and short-term plans to deal with the growing need for classroom space for elementary students.

Included in the short-term list are more portables at Archie Stouffer Elementary School and taking back space that has previously been rented to Sir Sandford Fleming College

The board has developed two options for dealing with the county's long-term accommo- ment outlining its accommodation needs for

dation needs. The first option involves the construction of two new kindergarten to Grade 3 schools, one in Haliburton and the other in Minden. The second option is to build a new Kindergarten to Grade 8 school to serve both

These recommendations reflect a change in attitude for the board which has, in recent years, pinned its hopes on additions to existing school buildings.

Last Wednesday, the board released a state-

elementary schools.

"During the last three years elementary school enrolment has increased by just under 300 students," the statement says. "From September 1988 to September 1989 the increase was approximately 10 per cent. Much of this growth took place in the Haliburton and Minden school zones.

"The greatest increase is in the primary grades and, as such, will continue to require

(more on page 2)



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